

Crop Emergence Improves

Five days were suitable for fieldwork during the week ending May 22, according to the USDA-NASS-Michigan Statistical Office. Precipitation amounts ranged from 0.17 inches in the central Lower Peninsula to 0.82 inches in the northwest Lower Peninsula. Average temperatures ranged from 4 degrees below normal in the central, south central, and southwest Lower Peninsula to 1 degree below normal in the eastern Upper Peninsula. Crop emergence, now at or above normal, improved this past week. The condition of crops could improve with additional moisture and heat. “Soil moisture improved this week with about 1 to 1.5 inches of rain and made everything look better, but we still need heat units,” mentioned one farmer. Another operator added that, “Early planted corn and soybeans were very slow in growth with some being replanted. Later planted corn and soybeans appear to be doing quite well.”

Field Crops

Cooler than normal temperatures prevailed across the State, and scattered storms and rainfall throughout the week provided adequate soil moisture. Some areas received severe weather with reports of hail. **Corn** continued to emerge, although slowly. There have been reports of a yellow or purple color to some fields. **Soybean** planting slowed this week due to rainfall and wet fields. Emergence was limited in the cooler temperatures. Fields that had emerged appeared to be in good condition. **Sugarbeet** growth and emergence also continued. Many fields had plants with the first leaf pair. There have been reports of damage due to globular springtails. **Alfalfa** growth progressed nicely with some areas reporting the crop near bloom. **Winter wheat** varied across the State with some areas reporting smaller plants than previous years. An increase in precipitation has led to an increase in powdery mildew. **Oats** and **barley** looked good.

Soil moisture for week ending 05/22/05

Stratum	Very short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Topsoil	2	11	82	5
Subsoil	4	19	71	6

Crop condition for week ending 05/22/05

Crop	Very poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
All Hay	0	8	35	49	8
Barley	0	1	29	65	5
Corn	1	7	40	40	12
Oats	1	2	17	64	16
Pasture	3	5	34	43	15
Winter Wheat	3	5	25	57	10

Fruit

Most varieties of **apples** were at post-bloom drop last week in the southwest. Fruit set was highly variable depending on geography and variety. In the west central, apples were mostly at petal fall, depending on variety. Wetting periods were typically too short there last week to cause concern over apple scab infection. In the southeast, apples which flowered two weeks ago saw little pollination due to cool temperatures and a lack of bees. As a result, growers are concerned about fruit set. In the southwest, **tart cherries** displayed a light fruit set due to spring snows. In the west central, tart cherries were in petal fall and **sweet cherries** were in the shuck. Cool weather and poor pollination may lead to a light crop. Bloom was ending in tart cherries, and sweet cherries were in post-bloom drop in the northwest. In the southeast, tart cherries were in petal fall, and sweet cherries were in the shuck. In the southwest, **peach** growers were treating developing fruit for flying insects. In the southeast, peaches were in the shuck while in the west central they were at petal fall. **Pear** fruit set in the southwest was very light. In the southwest, **blueberries** were at petal fall while in the southeast the crop was blooming.

Vegetables

Various crops throughout the State continued to be planted by vegetable growers. In many areas, planting is almost done. However, some areas still need more heat and soil moisture to get the crops growing. **Asparagus** production has picked up, but progress was still behind normal. **Cabbage** was doing well and was reported to be in very good condition. **Carrot** planting was completed in many areas. **Celery** was developing nicely after being injured by freezing temperatures two weeks ago. **Sweet corn** continued to emerge but was looking quite pale due to cool temperatures and dry soil. Transplanting of **peppers** has just begun in some areas. Also, **squash** and **cucumber** transplanting in tunnels progressed. Planting continued for both fresh market and processing **tomatoes**.

Crop progress for week ending 05/22/05

Crop	This week	Last week	Last year	5-year average
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
All hay, first cutting	2	NA	2	2
Asparagus, harvested	27	24	46	51
Barley, planted	96	82	89	86
Barley, emerged	84	54	59	66
Corn, planted	88	83	70	69
Corn, emerged	42	13	52	41
Dry beans, planted	3	NA	NA	NA
Oats, planted	99	95	94	95
Oats, emerged	93	78	88	85
Potatoes, planted	81	65	62	70
Potatoes, emerged	30	9	27	NA
Soybeans, planted	73	58	36	37
Soybeans, emerged	15	5	25	18
Winter wheat, headed	1	0	18	12

Michigan Weather Summary for Week Ending 05/22/05 ¹

Station	Temperature			Cumulative growing degree days ²			Precipitation					
	Maximum	Minimum	Departure from normal	2005	2004	Normal	This week	Last two weeks	Last four weeks	Since April 1	Normal	
											Since April 1	For month
Ironwood	72	30		275	214		0.36	1.14	1.55	2.26		
Marquette	77	29		225	179		0.81	1.46	2.23	3.98		
Stephenson	78	29		255	288		1.05	1.99	2.39	3.49		
Western UP	78	29	-2	238	201	222	0.69	1.54	2.12	3.12	4.51	3.37
Cornell	79	32		206	201		0.94	1.48	2.57	2.98		
Sault St Marie	76	32		191	110		0.01	1.03	1.79	2.76		
Eastern UP	79	26	-1	203	151	145	0.50	1.36	2.15	3.10	4.52	3.01
Beulah	74	32		330	277		0.97	1.72	2.14	3.05		
Lake City	75	28		285	284		1.45	2.11	2.43	3.31		
Old Mission	72	30		280	232		0.92	1.48	1.84	2.73		
Pellston	76	28		269	250		0.34	1.05	1.29	2.47		
Northwest	76	28	-3	277	245	266	0.82	1.42	1.75	2.69	4.49	2.61
Alpena	77	29		220	252		0.00	0.41	1.11	2.43		
Houghton Lake	76	27		296	310		0.99	1.54	1.69	2.31		
Rogers City	77	30		269	234		0.56	1.00	1.46	2.53		
Northeast	79	27	-3	274	279	248	0.55	1.06	1.48	2.54	4.51	2.76
Fremont	73	33		361	404		0.15	1.15	1.31	1.62		
Hart	74	32		333	336		0.95	1.89	2.07	2.60		
Muskegon	75	38		343	389		0.42	2.09	2.35	2.57		
West Central	76	30	-2	339	364	307	0.63	1.68	1.87	2.16	5.04	2.67
Alma	77	34		348	424		0.19	1.28	1.49	1.96		
Big Rapids	77	34		342	387		0.00	0.92	0.92	0.92		
Central	77	32	-4	344	406	339	0.17	1.21	1.37	1.73	5.06	2.79
Bad Axe	74	37		288	338		0.33	1.24	1.88	3.23		
Pigeon	75	40		271	325		0.02	0.70	1.23	1.72		
Saginaw	77	38		291	397		0.44	1.57	2.15	3.22		
Standish	78	33		287	349		0.33	1.33	1.77	2.83		
East Central	79	33	-3	276	360	322	0.36	1.29	1.80	2.82	4.43	2.63
Fennville	74	36		391	419		0.63	1.19	1.33	1.89		
Grand Rapids	74	36		378	506		0.42	1.75	2.07	2.75		
Holland	73	39		387	445		0.21	0.25	0.53	1.15		
South Bend, IN	77	41		460	565		0.52	0.88	0.95	1.91		
Watervliet	74	38		415	475		0.56	1.31	1.53	2.20		
Southwest	78	33	-3	409	490	368	0.44	1.09	1.30	2.01	5.57	3.01
Belding	76	32		351	450		0.29	1.76	1.98	3.06		
Coldwater	76	34		368	469		0.52	1.31	0.00	2.12		
Lansing	76	37		379	472		0.43	1.16	1.34	2.34		
South Central	77	32	-4	378	490	368	0.40	1.23	1.29	2.05	5.26	2.92
Detroit	77	44		379	496		0.53	1.28	1.78	3.09		
Flint	77	38		353	493		0.46	1.18	1.41	2.55		
Romeo	78	34		335	443		0.21	1.19	2.01	3.44		
Tipton	77	36		394	467		0.49	1.89	2.32	3.32		
Toledo, OH	77	35		394	543		0.37	0.99	1.58	3.42		
Southeast	78	34	-4	368	485	349	0.49	1.34	1.74	3.47	5.25	2.85

¹ Issued by the Federal/State Michigan Agricultural Statistics Service in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Commerce, Michigan State University's Cooperative Extension Service, Agricultural Meteorologist, Department of Geography, and Crop Advisory Team ALERTS.

² Growing degree days (GDD) is the sum of daily mean temperatures minus 50 per day, 86 maximum and 50 minimum. The GDD is accumulative from April 1.